

Research being made—1924.

NEGRO HISTORY SOCIETY MEETS IN RICHMOND

Historians And Welfare Students of Both Races Will Disseminate Information; Notables Will Speak.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 18—The annual meeting of the Association for the study of Negro Life and History will convene in Richmond, Va., September 29, 30, when historians and social welfare students of both races will seek to disseminate information and popularize the truth about the Negro. The aim of the meeting will be to point out the beautiful and good in all branches of the human family and especially to present the long overlooked virtues of the Negro, it being an accepted truth that race prejudice must become impossible by better acquainting one race with the other. The whole effort of the association is based on the truth that you cannot hate one whom you know.

9-20-24
The distinguished persons to appear on the program assure the success of the meeting. President W. J. Clark, of Virginia Union, will survey the work of the Association; Dr. James E. Gregg, of Hampton, and Prof. C. H. Malony will discuss the question of race superiority and inferiority; Mr. Charles S. Johnson, will read a paper on the "Scientific Study of the Negro;" Prof. L. P. Jackson, of the Virginia Normal and Industrial Institute, will read a paper on the work of the early missionary teacher; President J. F. Lane, of Lane College, will deliver an address on "Race Relations;" Dr. R. C. Woods, of Virginia Seminary and Prof. Miles Mark Fisher, will discuss the

"Negro Church;" ex-congressman Thomas E. Miller and Mr. A. A. Taylor, Associate Investigator of the Association, will address the body on the "Negro During the Reconstruction;" James Weldon Johnson will discuss "Negro Agitation Organizations Since the Civil War;" Prof. John R. Hawkin will emphasize the importance of knowing the record of the race and Dr. S. C. Mitchell, of Richmond University, will join the general discussion.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS IN NEGRO HISTORY.

Questions pertaining to Negro history anywhere, of general interest and not too long, will be answered by Mr. Parker in this column. When space will not permit or the subject is not suitable, letters will be personally answered, subject to proper limitations, and when a stamped envelope is enclosed. Address all communications to George Wells Parker, the Associated Negro Press, 3423 Indiana Ave., Chicago, Ill. Copyright, 1924, by A. N. P.

Who was Aisha and what part did she play in the life of Mohammed?—B. B. L., Keokuk, Iowa.
Aisha was the third wife of Mohammed and the daughter of Abubekr, the prophet's nearest and dearest friend. Abubekr was a full blooded Negro and the first caliph after the death of Mohammed. Aisha was the favorite wife of Mohammed and exercised a great control over him until his death.

Was Sappho a colored peeress? Y. R. E., Baltimore, Md.
Sappho was undoubtedly colored and probably of a medium brown color. In one of her fragments she writes, "To Leto's daughter, Ethiopia, was I dedicated." Latona was the fabled daughter of Coeus, a Titan, and by Zeus the mother of several children, among them Apollo, Diana and Ethiopia. Since both Latona and Zeus seemed to have begotten very dark offspring, we surmise that Sappho must have been pretty much of the African descent to be dedicated to Latona.

Who was El Tarik?—F. H. K., Moline, Ill.
El Tarik was the (Moor) Negro who conquered Spain and after whom the rook of Gibraltar is named.

Was the wife of Charles Summer a colored woman?—R. F. G., New York.

When Charles Summer was in the United States senate, his enemies claimed that his wife was of Negro blood. Whether this is true or not is a question, but her decidedly brunette type caused much gossip among the social leaders. Summer never answered the question to anyone's satisfaction.

Did Senator B. K. Bruce ever act in the capacity of President of the United States?—W. P. J., Minneapolis, Minn.

No, Bruce, like many other senators, was at one time called to the chair of president of the Senate and in that capacity one might say he performed the duties assigned to the Vice-President. Since it is the duty of the latter to preside over the senate.

Just who are the Nordics?—G. H. B., Denver, Colo.

The Nordic is a fiction designed to designate northern European whites. Sixty years ago the term Aryan was promulgated and later exploded. Then he had the "Anglo Saxon." For some reason this has been shelved and superseded by the term "Nordic." There are no ethnically pure races. Even among the Scandinavians there is mixture and the present ruling dynasty of Sweden was founded by Bernadotte, a Moor of African descent.

Who was Rameses the Great?—D. S. A., Memphis, Tenn.

Negro and Egyptian conqueror, one of the world's most famous. He was the son of Seti and belonged to the Nineteenth Dynasty (1290-1205 B. C.) He conquered a great part of Asia and is the hero of the Epic of Pentaur. He was a pretty much conceited being, but seemed to get away with it all right.

Where is the Sudan?—T. L. J., Charleston, S. C.

The Sudan is a vast region of North Africa extending from the Atlantic Ocean to the Red Sea, south of the Sahara. The part of the Sudan now in the public eye is just south of Egypt. From native control it passed into French hands and by trickery it became English. General Gordon was placed in control and when the Sudanese rose up and rebelled, Gordon was killed. He was succeeded by the famous Kitchener. Under English control more than 300,000 acres are devoted to cotton raising and since cotton is so necessary to English economy, this is the answer to England's determination to hold it.

Research being made—1924.

Reports Show 4500 Negroes Owned Slaves in 1830

Taking up the study of the Free Negro in the United States, the Research Department of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, directed by Dr. C. G. Woodson, decided to make this statistical report as to the heads of families, their ownership of slaves and social relations with the whites. The aim was to facilitate the study of this neglected subject. Most of these people have been forgotten in history are surprised to learn today that about a half million, almost one-seventh of the Negroes of this country, were free prior to the emancipation in 1856. They can hardly believe that they can hardly believe that 4500 of these were owners of slaves themselves in 1830, and in many cases controlled large plantations.

The census records show that the majority of the Negro owners of slaves were such from the point of view of philanthropy. In many instances the husband purchased the wife or vice versa. The slaves belonging to such families were few compared with the large numbers found among the whites on the well developed plantations. Slaves of Negroes were in some cases the children of a free father who had purchased his wife. If he did not thereafter emancipate the mother, as so many such husbands failed to do, his own children were born his slaves and were thus reported by the enumerators.

Some of these husbands were not anxious to liberate their wives immediately. They considered it advisable to put them on probation for a few years, and if they did not find them satisfactory they would sell their wives as other slave holders disposed of Negroes. For example, a Negro shoemaker in Charleston, South Carolina, purchased his wife for \$700; but, on finding her hard to please, he sold her a few months thereafter for \$750, gaining \$50 by the transaction. Dr. C. G. Woodson personally knew a man in Cumberland County, Virginia, whose mother was purchased by his father who had first bought himself, becoming enamored of a male slave,

he gave him her husband's manumission papers that they might escape together to free soil. Upon detecting this plot, the officers of the law got the impression that her husband had turned over the papers to the slave and arrested the freed man for the supposed offense. He had such difficulty in extricating himself from this complication that his attorney's fees amounted to \$500.00. To pay them he disposed of his faithless wife for that amount.

Benevolent Negroes often purchased slaves to make their lot easier by granting them their freedom for a nominal sum or by allowing them to work on liberal terms. Dr. Melville J. Herskovits, of New York, lecturer in the New School for Social Research, will speak on "Certain Preliminary Results of a Study of Negro-White Crossing." Other speakers will include L. Hollingsworth Wood, president of the Urban League; Charles S. Johnson, editor of "Opportunity"; Professor Charles H. Wesley, of Howard University, and Dr. R. C. Woods, president of Virginia Seminary.

The executive council of the association meeting in conference includes Julius Rosenwald, of Chicago; Professor Franz Boas, anthropologist of Columbia University; Professor Carl Russell Fish, of the University of Wisconsin; Professor E. A. Hooton, of Harvard, and Bishops Carter, of Chicago, and Hurst, of Baltimore.

In the South where almost all of the Negro slaveholders were found moreover, we find some of them competing with the large planters in the number of slaves they owned. Most of such Negro proprietors lived in Louisiana, South Carolina, Maryland and Virginia, as did the majority of all such slave owners. Excepting those of Louisiana, one may say that most of the Negro owners of slaves lived in urban communities. In those parts of the South where the influence of the kind planter near the coast was not felt the Negro owner of slaves did not frequently appear. The free Negroes themselves, moreover, encountered such difficulties in the lower South and Southwest that they had to seek more hospitable communities in free States.

NEW YORK CITY TRIBUNE
APRIL 3, 1924

Conference
Negro Life
Philadelphia
Begin To-day
Through Friday

Special to The New York Herald Tribune
PHILADELPHIA, April 2. — The spring conference of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History will open to-morrow and continue

through Friday, with day sessions at the Y. M. C. A. Southwest Building, and evening sessions at the Allen A. M. E. Church. The conference was called by John R. Hawkins, president, and S. W. Rutherford, secretary, both of Washington.

Dr. Melville J. Herskovits, of New York, lecturer in the New School for Social Research, will speak on "Certain Preliminary Results of a Study of Negro-White Crossing." Other speakers will include L. Hollingsworth Wood, president of the Urban League; Charles S. Johnson, editor of "Opportunity"; Professor Charles H. Wesley, of Howard University, and Dr. R. C. Woods, president of Virginia Seminary.

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RACE HISTORIANS TO MEETING IN PHILA.

Washington, March 7.—On the 3rd and 4th of April the Spring Conference of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History will take place in Philadelphia. Reports on the status of investigations will be made, men of scientific preparation will be invited to discuss serious aspects of their studies, and prominent persons interested in the Negro will bring a word of cheer.

The conference will direct its attention to the Negro in Africa, the Latin American of color, the migration, in its historical setting, racial crossings or interbreeding, labor before the Civil War, labor during the reconstruction, the free Negro prior to emancipation, folk-lore, and the development of the church.

Practically all of the speakers are persons of national reputation and the topics which they will discuss are of paramount importance. Mr. L. Hollingsworth Wood, President of the Urban League will discuss "Some Happy Results of Race Contacts;" Mr. Charles S. Johnson, Editor of Opportunity, will present the "Migration of the Negro in its Historical Setting;" Dr. Melville J. Herskovits of the New School of Social Research will speak from the results of his study of "Racial Crossings of the Whites and Blacks in Harlem, New York City." Dr. Alain Leroy Locke,

who has recently returned from Africa, will disclose "New Approaches to African Culture;" Professor Charles H. Wesley of Howard University, will deliver a discourse on the "Economic Status of the Negro in the Decade Prior to the Civil War;" Dr. Robert T. Kerlin, the noted author and reformer, will discuss the "Latest Developments in Negro Poetry;" Mr. A. A. Taylor, Associate Investigator of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, will speak on "The Movement of the Negroes to the Southwest between 1830 and 1850;" the Honorable Thomas E. Miller, former member of Congress will enlighten the Conference on the "Free Negro Prior to the Civil War;" Dr. R. C. Woods, president of Virginia Seminary, will deliver an address on "The Value of the Association to the Race;" and Miss Nannie H. Burroughs, head of the National Training School for Girls, will speak on "The importance of Negro History." Here is a new movement of tremendous significance and possibilities. We hear much about down-with-the-Negro and the like, but such spokesmen represent the mob.